

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/626,536	IKEDA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	<i>[Signature]</i>
	Shih-wen Hsieh	2861	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to application filed on July 25, 2003.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. The drawings filed on 25 July 2003 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of
 Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 10-21-03
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment _____.
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

SHIH-WEN HSIEH
PRIMARY EXAMINER

S. Hsieh 11-16-04

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The application has been amended as follows:

In the claim:

Claims 6 and 7:

Please change "the scanning direction" (in page 25, line 3 for each respective claim) into "a scanning direction" to correct a minor lack of antecedent basis problem.

2. Claims 1-8 are allowed.

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The primary reason for the allowance of claims 1-8 is the inclusion of the limitation of an attenuating member for attenuating vibrations from said drive source between said carriage and said holding member, said attenuating member being of a shape surrounding said projected portion of said carriage, and said holding member holding said transmitting member being mounted on said projected portion with said attenuating member interposed therebetween. It is this limitation found in each of the claims, as they are claimed in the combination that has not been found, taught or

suggested by the prior art of record, which makes these claims allowable over the prior art.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

JP 06-047978, "Recording apparatus" issued to Takashi et al., 2/94 provided by the applicants (IDS) teaches a joint (201 and 202) sticks out from the carriage (can be seen in fig. 3, details of this joint can be seen such as in fig. 2), this joint engaged with the timing belt (109) and functioned as a shock absorption structure to absorb the vibration transmitted from the driving source (usually a step motor to drive the carriage through the timing belt 109) to the timing belt. Takashi et al.'s shock absorption structure performs the same function as that in the instant application, however, its structure details are different from those in the instant application as that can be seen in Takashi et al.'s fig. 2-8 and figs. 3 and 4 of the instant application.

US 6,793,303 B2, "Recording apparatus" issued to Ikeda, 9/2004 teaches a damping device (61, fig. 3) functioned the same as the "attenuating member" in the

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instant application, the details of this damping device are as shown in figs. 3-5, which are different from those in the instant application.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shih-wen Hsieh whose telephone number is 571-272-2256. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM -5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, S D Meier can be reached on 571-272-2149. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

**SHIH-WEN HSIEH
PRIMARY EXAMINER**


Shih-wen Hsieh
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2861

SWH


Nov. 16, 2004